

Message Text

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15

ACTION PM-03

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 MC-02 ACDA-05 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15

CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 L-02 AID-05 /053 W

----- 127993

R 191700Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6190

INFO SECDEF/DSAA ISA-IA

JCS-J5

CSAF/LGSXR

USCINCSO

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MASS, GT

SUBJECT: GUATEMALAN AIR FORCE PURCHASE OF C-47'S

1. IN JANUARY 1974 THE GOG SIGNED A CONTRACT (FMS CASE SBL) TO PURCHASE ELEVEN C-47 AIRCRAFT LOCATED AT DAVIS MONTHAN AFB, ARIZONA AND HAS APPLIED \$205,442 FROM PRIOR YEAR FMS CREDITS TO COVER COSTS. DURING THE CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS THERE WAS MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING THAT GUATEMALA WOULD TURN BACK FIVE C-47'S PREVIOUSLY PROVIDED UNDER MAP AND UTILIZE PORTION OF PURCHASED AIRCRAFT FOR FLOAT SO THAT IN-COUNTRY INVENTORY WOULD NOT EXCEED THE FOURTEEN C-47'S PROJECTED BY JSOP AND OTHER US FORCE OBJECTIVE PLANS.

2. GOVERNMENT NOW HAS AMBITIOUS PLAN TO EXPAND GAF ACTIVITIES TO PROVIDE CIVIL CARGO SERVICE TO ISOLATED REGIONS AND CONTRACT SERVICES TO OIL EXPLORATION PROJECTS. EXPANSION ALSO DESIGNED TO PROVIDE GREATER INCENTIVE AND CAREER BENEFITS TO YOUNGER PILOTS WHO INCREASINGLY ARE LEAVING GAF FOR CIVIL AIR EMPLOYMENT. EXPANDED TRAINING FOR THE PARACHUTE BATTALION IS ALSO A STATED OBJECTIVE.

3. CONSEQUENTLY GOG NOW DESIRES TO BRING ALL ELEVEN C-47'S

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INTO COUNTRY WHILE RETAINING THE TEN NOW ON HAND, FOR AN INVENTORY

OF TWENTY-ONE. MILGP IS OF OPINION THAT GAF IS CAPABLE OF
MAINTAINING AND EMPLOYING EXPANDED FLEET. PRINCIPAL INCREMENT
TO MILITARY CAPABILITIES WOULD BE POTENTIAL FOR SIMULTANEOUS
EMPLOYMENT OF TWO PARACHUTE COMPANIES PROVIDED 75 PER CENT
AIRCRAFT AVAILABILITY RATE ACHIEVED. A COMPANY MINUS IS
MAXIMUM EFFORT NOW.

4. SUBJECT TO CINCSO CONCURRENCE POST RECOMMENDS THAT
APPROVED US FORCE OBJECTIVE FOR GUATEMALA BE ESTABLISHED AT
TWENTY-ONE C-47 TYPE AIRCRAFT.
MELOY

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Draft Date: 19 MAR 1975
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Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
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Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
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